

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An anti-virus program executable by a computer system, comprising:
 - 2 virus scanning routines operable to scan a file and detect a virus;
 - 3 virus removal routines operable to remove the detected virus from the file,
 - 4 the virus removal routines comprising a text editor, operable to search and
 - 5 modify a textual portion of the file under control of virus removal instructions;
 - 6 and
 - 7 the virus removal instructions, which are operable to cause the text editor
 - 8 to remove a virus from the textual portion of the file.
- 1 2. The anti-virus program of claim 1, wherein the removed virus is located
- 2 on one line of text.
- 1 3. The anti-virus program of claim 1, wherein the removed virus is located
- 2 on a plurality of lines of text.
- 1 4. The anti-virus program of claim 1, wherein the text editor comprises a
- 2 search function operable to search a textual portion of a file using a regular
- 3 expression specifying a pattern of text to be matched.

1 5. The anti-virus program of claim 4, wherein the text editor comprises a
2 mark function operable to mark text matching the regular expression that was
3 found by the search function.

1 6. The anti-virus program of claim 5, wherein the text editor comprises a
2 delete function operable to delete text marked by the mark function.

1 7. The anti-virus program of claim 6, wherein the mark function is operable
2 to mark a start of text and an end of text.

1 8. The anti-virus program of claim 7, wherein the delete function is operable
2 to delete text between the marked start of text and the marked end of text.

1 9. The anti-virus program of claim 8, wherein the deleted text is located on
2 one line of text.

1 10. The anti-virus program of claim 8, wherein the deleted text is located on a
2 plurality of lines of text.

1 11. The anti-virus program of claim 6, wherein:
2 the search function is operable to search for a start of text to be marked
3 and the mark function is operable to mark a start marker at the start of text;
4 the search function is operable to search for an end of text to be marked
5 and the mark function is operable to mark an end marker at the end of text; and
6 the delete function is operable to delete text between the start marker and
7 the end marker.

1 12. A method for removing a virus from a textual portion of a file infected
2 with a virus, comprising the steps of:
3 loading the infected file;
4 searching the infected file to locate text associated with the virus;
5 marking the located text; and
6 deleting the marked text.

1 13. The method of claim 8, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:
2 searching the infected file using a regular expression specifying a pattern
3 of text to be matched.

1 14. The method of claim 9, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:
2 searching for a pattern of text associated with a start of text associated
3 with the virus.

1 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the marking step comprises the step of:
2 placing a start marker at a start of text associated with the virus.

1 16. The method of claim 11, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:
2 searching for a pattern of text associated with an end of text associated
3 with the virus.

1 17. The method of claim 12, wherein the marking step comprises the step of:
2 placing an end marker at an end of text associated with the virus.

1 18. The method of claim 13, wherein the deleting step comprises the step of:
2 deleting text between the start marker and the end marker.

1 19. A system for removing a virus from a textual portion of a file infected
2 with a virus comprising:
3 a processor operable to execute computer program instructions;

4 a memory operable to store computer program instructions executable
5 by the processor; and
6 computer program instructions stored in the memory and executable to
7 perform the steps of:
8 loading the infected file;
9 searching the infected file to locate text associated with the virus;
10 marking the located text; and
11 deleting the marked text.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:
2 searching the infected file using a regular expression specifying a pattern
3 of text to be matched.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:
2 searching for a pattern of text associated with a start of text associated
3 with the virus.

1 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the marking step comprises the step of:
2 placing a start marker at a start of text associated with the virus.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the searching step comprises the step of:

2 searching for a pattern of text associated with an end of text associated
3 with the virus.

1 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the marking step comprises the step of:
2 placing an end marker at an end of text associated with the virus.

1 25. The system of claim 24, wherein the deleting step comprises the step of:
2 deleting text between the start marker and the end marker.

1 26. A computer program product for removing a virus from a textual portion
2 of a file infected with a virus, comprising:
3 a computer readable medium;
4 computer program instructions, recorded on the computer readable
5 medium, executable by a processor, for performing the steps of
6 loading the infected file;
7 searching the infected file to locate text associated with the virus;
8 marking the located text; and
9 deleting the marked text.

1 27. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the searching step
2 comprises the step of:

3 searching the infected file using a regular expression specifying a pattern
4 of text to be matched.

1 28. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the searching step
2 comprises the step of:

3 searching for a pattern of text associated with a start of text associated
4 with the virus.

1 29. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the marking step
2 comprises the step of:

3 placing a start marker at a start of text associated with the virus.

1 30. The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the searching step
2 comprises the step of:

3 searching for a pattern of text associated with an end of text associated
4 with the virus.

1 31. The computer program product of claim 30, wherein the marking step
2 comprises the step of:

3 placing an end marker at an end of text associated with the virus.

- 1 32. The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the deleting step
- 2 comprises the step of:
- 3 deleting text between the start marker and the end marker.